

Listing of the Claims:

1 (Currently Amended): A communication connecting device connected at one end to a first terminal unit and connected at the other end to a second terminal unit via an IP network, and selectively operable with a plurality of communication standards adaptive to said first terminal unit, said second terminal unit and said IP network for thereby implementing real-time communication, said device comprising:

a terminal unit control circuit for storing data received from the first terminal unit or the second terminal unit, and controlling said first terminal unit in accordance with a first communication standard;

a first storage storing size information representative of a size of data to be coded;

a coding/decoding circuit for collectively coding the data in accordance with the size information read out of said first storage and the first communication standard or decoding coded data received from the second terminal unit in accordance with said first communication standard and determining whether said coded data decoded is a response to data sent from the first terminal unit or retransmitted data;

a second storage for storing, ~~assuming~~ the coded data against a loss of the coded data output from said coding/decoding circuit, ~~said coded data~~;

an information adding/separating circuit for filtering, when adding a header and data for making up for the loss of the coded data ~~assumed~~ to the coded data in accordance with a second communication standard that relates to the IP network, said data in response to a response detection signal output from said coding/decoding circuit and representative of the response or separating coded data from data received from the second terminal unit and feeding said coded data separated to said coding/decoding

circuit; and

an interfacing circuit for converting the coded data input via said information adding/separating circuit to a signal based on a command or converting a signal received from the second terminal unit to the coded data.

2 (Original): The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said coding/decoding circuit comprises a response decision circuit for determining whether the coded data decoded is a response to the data sent or retransmitted data and outputting said response detection signal in accordance with a result of a decision.

3 (Currently Amended): The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said information adding/separating circuit comprises a data deleting circuit for deleting, when said response detection signal is representative of the response, the coded data written to said second storage ~~on the assumption of~~ against the loss.

4 (Currently Amended): The device in accordance with claim 2, wherein said information adding/separating circuit comprises a data deleting circuit for deleting, when said response detection signal is representative of the response, the coded data written to said second storage ~~on the assumption of~~ against the loss.

5 (Original): The device in accordance with claim 4, wherein the first communication standard and the second communication standard respectively correspond to ITU-T Recommendation T.30 (revised in 1996) and Recommendation T.38 (June/1998), and wherein at least one of said first terminal unit and said second terminal

unit comprises a G3 (Group 3) facsimile apparatus corresponding to Recommendation T.30 (revised in 1996).

6 (Currently Amended): A data output control method for a communication connecting device connected at one end to a first terminal unit and connected at the other end to a second terminal unit via an IP network, and selectively operable with a plurality of communication standards adaptive to said first terminal unit, said second terminal unit and said IP network for thereby implementing real-time communication, said method comprising:

- a first step of storing data received from the first terminal unit or the second terminal unit;

- a second step of outputting size information representative of a size of data to be coded;

- a third step of collectively coding the data in accordance with the read out size information and a first communication standard;

- a fourth step of storing the coded data ~~on the assumption of~~ against a loss of said coded data;

- a fifth step of separating, among data received from the second terminal unit, coded data, decoding said coded data, determining whether said coded data decoded is a response to data sent from the first terminal unit or retransmitted data, and outputting a response detection signal in accordance with a result of a decision;

- a sixth step of selectively executing, in accordance with said response detection signal, first filtering that reads out, in accordance with a second communication standard

relating to the IP network, a header for the coded data and the coded data stored ~~on the~~
~~assumption of~~ against the loss of said coded data and adds said header and said coded
data to newly input coded data, or second filtering that deletes the coded data currently
stored; and

a seventh step of converting the coded data to a signal based on a command and
outputting said signal.

7 (Original): The method in accordance with claim 6, wherein the sixth step
comprises:

an eighth step of reading out the coded data stored and adding said coded data to
newly input coded data;

a ninth step of executing said second filtering for deleting the coded data currently
stored; and

a tenth step of outputting a result of either one of said eighth step and said ninth
step in accordance with said response detection signal.

8 (Original): The method in accordance with claim 7, wherein the first
communication standard and the second communication standard respectively correspond
to ITU-T Recommendation T.30 (revised in 1996) and Recommendation T.38
(June/1998), and wherein at least one of said first terminal unit and said second terminal
unit comprises a G3 facsimile apparatuses corresponding to Recommendation T.30
(revised in 1996).